Rock Island Arsenal Fire and Emergency Services

Standard Operating Procedure

Live Fire Training at QCRTC	Category: Training
	Number: 204
Effective Date: August 9, 2006	Review Date: February 1, 2007
Reviewing Officer:	Authorizing Authority:
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1. Purpose:

To establish standard operating guidelines for conducting live fire training at the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department Training Facility while complying with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1403.

2. Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the agency utilizing the QCRTC to ensure that this procedure is implemented during training exercises.

3. Procedure:

- 3.1. Any organization wishing to utilize the training facility must first obtain permission from the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department Training Facility Coordinator.
- **3.1.2.** The time and date of the training drill must be scheduled with the Training Facility Coordinator or designee. Drills involving State Sponsored Schools always have first priority.
- 3.1.3 Only personnel who have been through a "train the trainer" will be allowed to serve as instructor.

4. Definitions:

Unless expressly stated elsewhere, the following terms will, for the purpose of this procedure, have the meaning indicated below:

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- **4.1. Instructor:** A person who is certified by Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal as a Certified Fire Instructor I and Fire fighter II or Certified by the State of Iowa as a Fire Instructor I and Fire Fighter I, or Certified DOD Fire Instructor I and Fire Fighter II.
- **4.2.** Instructor-In-Charge: A personal who is designated to be in charge of the live fire training evolutions (Incident Commander) who is certify by Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal as a Certified Fire Instructor I and Fire Fighter II or Certified by the State of Iowa as Fire Instructor I and Fire Fighter I, or Certified DOD Fire Instructor I and Fire Fighter II.
- **4.3 Safety Officer:** An individual designated to maintain a safe working environment at all live fire training evolutions.
- 4.4 Training Burn Building: A fixed facility to conduct live fire training evolutions.

5. Organization:

5.1. Student Prerequisites:

Prior to being permitted to participate in live fire training evolutions, personnel shall receive training to meet the following NFPA 1001 performance objectives:

- General Fire Fighting
- Forcible Entry
- Protective Breathing Apparatus
- Fire Hose, Nozzles, and Appliances
- Fire Streams
- Ladders
- Ventilation
- Rescue
- Safety Fire Behavior

5.2. Preparation of Training Center Burn Lab:

The Instructor-In-Charge shall ensure that the structure is in a safe condition prior to live fire training evolutions.

5.3. Pre-Burn Briefing Session:

5.3.1 Prior to conducting actual live fire evolutions in the building, the Instructor-In-Charge shall conduct a pre-burn briefing session for all participants. All evolutions to be conducted shall be discussed and assignments made for all crews participating in the training session.

5.3.2. Prior to conducting any live fire training in the structure, all participants shall have a knowledge and familiar with the layout of the building in order to facilitate necessary evacuation of the building.

5.4. Spectator Safety:

The Safety Officer shall restrict all spectators to an area outside the operations are perimeter established by the Safety Officer.

5.5. Material Types:

- Only Class A materials (wood pallets and straw) shall be utilized for live fire evolutions
- Flammable liquids are prohibited for the ignition of interior fires.
- An LPG torch will be used for ignition of live burn fires.
- No more than 1 ½ pallets and ¼ bale of straw per burner.

5.6. Command

- **5.6.1.** An Officer or Instructor shall be designed as "Command" and will assume the Command functions.
- **5.6.2.** A Training Officer or Instructor-In-Charge will assume Senior Advisor role.
- **5.6.3** A Command Post shall be established and positioned to afford maximum visibility of the structure, operating companies and fire conditions.

5.7. Communications:

- **5.7.1.** Command is responsible for establishing radio communications with each instructor or company officer involved in the drill.
- **5.7.2.** Companies operating at the training fire will continuously monitor assigned radio channel. All radios will be checked for proper functioning and correct channel prior to initiating training fire operations. This channel will be relayed to dispatch for proper notifications.

5.8. Divisions/Groups:

5.8.1. To eliminate confusion and provide adequate scene control, all personnel operating within the live fire training perimeters shall operate under the direction of division/group.

- **5.8.2.** The perimeters shall be defined as the hazardous area surrounding the burn structure and shall be determined by Command.
- **5.8.3.** The following divisions/groups shall be established on all live fires:
- Division 1, 2, 3, etc: Company Officer or Instructor directing interior suppression activities.
- Rescue Provide a staffed charged back-up hose line for each fire attack team, in position to assist in fire extinguishment and rescue of interior fire fighters. The back-up hose line will be manned by fire fighters.
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) shall consist of a minimum of three (3) fire fighters within and Instructor or Company Officer in Charge of each RIT team.

5.9. Safety Officer:

- **5.9.1.** The Instructor-In-Charge shall appoint a Safety Officer for all live fire training evolutions.
- **5.9.2.** The Safety Officer shall have the authority to intervene and control any aspect of the operations when, in or her judgment, a potential for real danger, accident, or unsafe condition exists.
- 5.9.3. The Safety Officer's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
 - Prevention of unsafe acts.
 - Elimination of unsafe conditions,
 - Conformation of an operations area perimeter with the Instructor-In-Charge.

5.10. Additional Safety Requirements:

- **5.10.1**. The Instructor-In-Charge of live fire training evolutions shall determine, prior to each specific evolution, how many lines and backup lines will be necessary. Each hose line shall be capable of delivering a minimum of 100 gpm.
- **5.10.2.** The Safety Office shall assign additional safety personnel as necessary to strategic locations to react to any unplanned or threatening situation or condition.
- **5.10.3.** The Instructor-In-Charge shall demonstrate the building evacuation signal to all personnel. A long blast of an air horn shall be used as the evacuation signal or radio transmission ordering evolutions of the structure. Upon this signal, all personnel shall report to exterior building to evacuation areas designated for a roll call.

- **5.10.4.** Paramedic service is available on Rock Island Arsenal. If the event medical attention is needed, personnel will need to call (309) 788-6534.
- **5.10.5.** The Instructor-In-Charge shall designated one person to control the materials being burned and to ignite the training fire in the presence of and under the direct supervisor of the Safety Officer. This personal shall be a student and shall wear full protective clothing, including self-contained PPE during ignition phase. The Instructor-In-Charge in coordination with the safety Officer will decide when to ignite the training fire.
- 5.10.6. No person(s) shall be placed inside the building to play the role of victim.
- **5.10.7.** Personnel Accountability Report or PAR shall be used at the following accountability benchmarks:
 - Any report of a trapped or missing fire Fighter
 - By all crews reporting an "All Clear"
 - At a report of the fire under control
 - Upon exiting the structure
 - Sudden hazardous event.
 - Change from offensive to defensive.
 - At the direction of Command
 - Evolution Signal.

5.11. Protective Clothing and Equipment:

Refer to Standard Operating Guidelines for Personnel Protective Equipment guidance of respective department.

5.12. Recruit Safety:

- **5.12.1.** Exposing recruit fire fighters to structural training fires presents special safety considerations. All instructors should anticipate that first exposures to interior fire conditions might be less than orderly. To reduce the possibility of injury, the span of control for interior operations should not exceed two.
- **5.12.2.** To reinforce safety procedures, the Instructor-In-charge shall conduct a protective clothing and equipment inspection on all recruits immediately prior to their engaging in suppression activities. The Safety Officer shall ensure that all clothing and apparatus are serviceable and worn in a manner to provide the maximum personal protection.
- 5.12.3. Have a charged safety line in place before you light the first fire.

- **5.12.4.** In all cases, an Instructor will enter the level or compartment ahead of the student and check conditions before allowing students to enter.
- **5.12.5.** Instructors will, at all times, be with the students. For example, an Instructor will not be on the first floor of the building and have the student crew search the upper floors without going with them.
- **5.12.6.** Use forcible entry props as they are to be used.

5.13. Company Officers:

Company Officers acting as Instructors will be responsible for direct supervision of assigned fire fighters / students, to reinforce safety procedures, the company officers shall conduct a protective clothing and equipment inspection on all fire fighters assigned prior to their engaging in suppression activities. This includes the prevention of unsafe acts and elimination of unsafe conditions.

5.14. Instructors:

- **5.14.1.** The Instructor-In-Charge shall consider factors such as extreme temperatures, larger groups, long duration classes, etc. & designate additional instructors as necessary to secure proper safety levels.
- **5.14.2.** Instructors shall make a head count when entering and exiting an actual live fire training evolution. Instructors shall closely monitor and supervise all assigned personnel during the evolution.

5.15. Reports and Records:

- **5.15.1.** The following records and reports shall be maintained on all training evolutions in accordance with the requirements of this standard. The Instructor-In-Charge shall submit the following information:
 - An accounting of the activities conducted
 - Documentation of unusual conditions encountered
 - · Any injuries incurred and treatment rendered
 - Any charge or deterioration in the structure
 - Incident Commander's name
 - Safety Officer's name
 - Training Roster
- **5.15.2.** The Instructor-In-Charge shall conduct a post-training briefing.

5.16. Clean-Up and Damage Guidelines:

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5.16.1. All damaged items are to be labeled with the date, nature of problem, your legible name and phone number where you can be contacted for further information. All damage is to be reported IMMEDIATELY to the Rock Island Arsenal Fire Department at (309) 782-2911. Combustibles include pallets and straw. This is a zero-tolerance area and any deviations will not be tolerated.

5.16.2. Burn rooms and the facility are to be picked up/cleaned at the end of the training session. The buildings and rooms shall be left in the same condition that they were found. Squeegees, brooms, and shovels are located in the connex box northwest of the burn building. Personnel will sweep up the rooms, utilize the roller magnet, and hose the rooms out. Place remnants of the fires in the dumpster located on site.

6. References:

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1403

Burn Tower Clean-Up Checklist (attached)